

Br. Ex. 145

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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## Excerpts.

In response to inquiries by press correspondents, the Acting Secretary made the following statement:

"It will be recalled that in 1940 the Japanese Government gave expression on several occasions to its desire that conditions of disturbance should not spread to the region of the Pacific, with special references to the Netherlands East Indies and French Indochina. This desire was expressly concurred in by many other Governments, including the Government of the United States. In statements by this Government, it was made clear that any alteration in the existing status of such areas by other than peaceful processes could not but be prejudicial to the security and peace of the entire Pacific area and that this conclusion was based on a doctrine which has universal application.

"On September 23, 1940, referring to the events then rapidly happening in the Indochina situation, the Secretary of State stated that it seemed obvious that the existing situation was being upset and that the changes were being achieved under duress. Present developments relating to Indochina provide clear indication that further changes are now being effected under duress.

. . . . .

"There is no doubt as to the attitude of the Government and people of the United States toward acts of aggression carried out by use or threat of armed force. That attitude has been made abundantly clear.

"By the course which it has followed and is following in regard to Indochina, the Japanese Government is giving clear indication that it is determined to pursue an objective of expansion by force or threat of force.

"There is not apparent to the Government of the United States any valid ground upon which the Japanese Government would be warranted in occupying Indochina or establishing bases in that area as measures of self-defense.

"There is not the slightest ground for belief on the part of even the most credulous that the Governments of the United States, of Great Britain, or of the Netherlands have any territorial ambitions in Indochina or have been planning any moves which could have been regarded as threats to Japan. This Government can, therefore, only

conclude /

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conclude that the action of Japan is undertaken because of the estimated value to Japan of bases in that region primarily for the purpose of further and more obvious movements of conquest in adjacent areas."

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Foreign Relations, pp. 315-316

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一九四一年(昭和十六年)七月二十四日 国務省發表

新聞紙掲載

(抜粋)

新開通信員の質問に答へて國務長官代理は次の如き聲明を  
爲した。一九四一年(昭和十六年)日本政府が敵向に亘つて擾乱状態  
が太平洋地区特に南  
領東印度及び佛領印度支那に擴大し  
る事を希望する旨、並べた事が相次ぎ起り、かくの如きの希望には  
アメリカ合衆国政府を始め各敵の政府が特に不滿感に有る。  
然が故に政府の声明は平和的手段以外に何ぞ比類地域の現状を  
変更せらる事は必然的には太平洋全地域の安全と平和とを害する  
事なり又此の決定は世界的に廣く用ひる主義に基くものである。  
といふ事が明示されたのである。

五〇年(昭和十五年)九月二三日 印度支那地域に於て相次ぎ起  
つたあた事件につき國務長官は該地域における現状は混亂  
としてあり、  
又その変更は疑なく強  
迫の下に達成され、ある所では何と宣言し、印度支那に關する  
現任の進歩派の下に今や同変更が行はれてゐる事を明瞭に指示  
する。

\* \* \*

アメリカ合衆国政府及び国民の武力の使用及武力脅威に依り  
決行される侵略行為に対する態度ははつきりと決まつてゐるが  
ある。その態度は既に充分明確にされ得るがである。

印度支那に關して過去に於て取った行動反覆に取りてある行  
動は日本政府が武力に依り又は武力脅威を以て領土擴張の  
目的を達成しようとした事を明示してゐるがである。

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アメリカ合衆国政府にとては日本政府が印度支那を領有する  
自衛手段として其の地域に根據地を立てる事は是れがハ  
る正しい根據があるとは曰へばハハ「最も軽々しく物事を言ふ」  
ハジカモアメリカ合衆国大英帝国等は和蘭政府が印度支那  
に領土の野ハを有して日本もが脅威あると言ひれり行動を  
企図しきると言ふる根據地は全然ないかであるハ故ニ吉ガ國  
政府は日本の行動はその地域に於ける基地が日本に取つて特に其の  
隣接地域に対する征服行動を更に進め更に顯著にある目的に  
價値あると見積つて為取られると吉論トドカシイ他は  
ないがである。

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